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## NOTES ON THE CAMBRIDGE TEXTS OF BEN SIRA.

THE following notes are the result of three days' study of the Hebrew fragments in the possession of Prof. Schechter. I went very carefully through the MSS., comparing them with the printed text in the *Wisdom of Ben Sira*, edited by Prof. Schechter and Dr. Taylor, and noting every point in which there was reason to differ from the reading adopted by the editors. The text is, however, so accurately reproduced that there is very little to alter in it, and the proposed changes are mostly unimportant, or concern passages in which the reading must remain a matter of individual opinion. Of course, in the short time at my disposal I may have overlooked some points, and could not hope to puzzle out many of the difficult lines in which the writing has almost entirely disappeared. Some differences, which are merely trifling or quite uncertain, are omitted from the list. With regard to MS. A, it is worth mentioning that, though the writing is distinct and usually well-preserved, some letters (ב and ב, ד and ד, ו and ו, ז and ז) are often hardly distinguishable; such alternatives are therefore usually not noted below. I have to thank Prof. Schechter very sincerely for his courtesy in giving me access to the fragments and affording me every facility for my work.

Chapter v. 4. For אִרְךְ read אִרְךְ.

vi. 7. For בְּנִסְכִּין read בְּנִסְכִּין.

vii. 16. For תַּחֲשׁוּבֶךָ read תַּחֲשׁוּבֶךָ.

21. After כִּנְפֹשׁ there is a hole: a letter *may* be lost.

23. For לָהֶם read לָהֶם.

- xii. 5 d. For רע read רעה.  
 14 marg. For ען read עו; it should be one line higher: perhaps a variant for זון.
- xiii. 6. For צריך read צריך.  
 26. For ושיח read ושיח.
- xiv. 9. For מעט read מעט.  
 13. For תמות read תמות.  
 16<sup>1</sup>. For לפני (above the line) read לפני; the correction is not quite distinct, and so is repeated in the margin.  
 18 c marg. For מתחות read ארחות.  
 27. For ובמענותיה read ובמענותיה.
- xv. 3. For והאכילתו read והאכילתו.  
 14. For כי (over מבראשית) read ט i.e. אדם is to be read  
 14. For אדם read אדם } eighth and מבראשית  
 ninth word in the line.
- xvi. 23. Read ונבר פ[ן]תה (?) אלה ונבר (?) לב יכינו (?) חסדי (?); the ו printed above ונבר is really the tail of the ק in צדק in the line above.  
 24. [מש]לי what is left of the first two letters suggests שכלי.
- xxx. 15 marg. For עשר read עשר.  
 19 marg. For יטב לאללי very doubtful: the remains of letters look like ל.ל.של.לי.  
 19 marg. Of יריחין only a ר (?) is visible.  
 19 marg. For מהונו read perhaps ממונ.  
 23 a. For פוג read פת (for פתה = ἀπάρα of several Greek MSS. Cf. Syriac).
- xxxi. 1 marg. תפריג is crossed through.  
 10 b. For תפארת read תפארה (cf. margin).  
 10 d. For רע read רעה.
- xxxii. 1 marg. For ובכ read ובכ.  
 5<sup>1</sup> marg. For נהפך read נהפך (תהפ'?).  
 11<sup>1</sup>. For שלחן read שולחן (?) (the ש is very doubtful).  
 12. The first letter seems to be כ.  
 17. For תורה read תורה.  
 22<sup>2</sup> marg. For מצות read מצותיק (?).  
 xxxv. 10. For לאל read לאל.

- 19 d. For ושמחתם read ושמחת.
- 20<sup>1</sup>. For כ...ה...פ...ב...מ...פ...ך read כ...ה...פ...ב...מ...פ...ך.
- xxxvi. 4. For לעיניהם read לעיניהם.
6. For האדר האדיר read האדר.
- 17 d. For אל[עו]ל[ם] read אל[הני לעו]ל[ם] (on account of the space).
- 18 marg. Before תסוגר there seems to be a ה.
- 18 marg. בבטן very doubtful; the remains of letters look like רר.
- 18 marg. ממעול looks like ממאכל (?).
- xxxviii. 5 marg. For מעין מעין read מעין מעין.
- 10 marg. For הסר (?) read הסר.
11. For [נ]וה (?) read [נ]וה.
12. After מקום some letters very indistinct: perhaps חירא.
23. For מתושבת read מתושבת.
27. The remains of letters admit of the reading אף עשה חרש ועצב (?) אשר ל[י] לה [בין] מ[נהג].
- l. 8 a. The first two words are written כנצפנפי (the second n may be י).
- 9 b c. Read א. יל (?) ככלי זהב תבנית; the missing letter looks more like ט than anything else.
- 16 d. For להזכיר read להזכיר.
21. העם כלו very doubtful: the remains of letters are like . פעם הל; perhaps no letter after ל.
24. For פינחם read פינחם.
- li. 4 a. After שלהבת read סביב (tops of letters only remaining).
- 20 a<sup>1</sup>. For אמה . . . read אמררה (tops of ררה only remaining).
- 20 a<sup>2</sup>. For אחוז read אהרז.
- 20 a<sup>2</sup>. For בחוכה read בה.
- 20 b, c, d. For כ...ב read כ...ב.